The Behavior, Constraint, and Scenario (BeCoS) Tool:
A Web-Based Software Application for Modeling Behaviors and Scenarios

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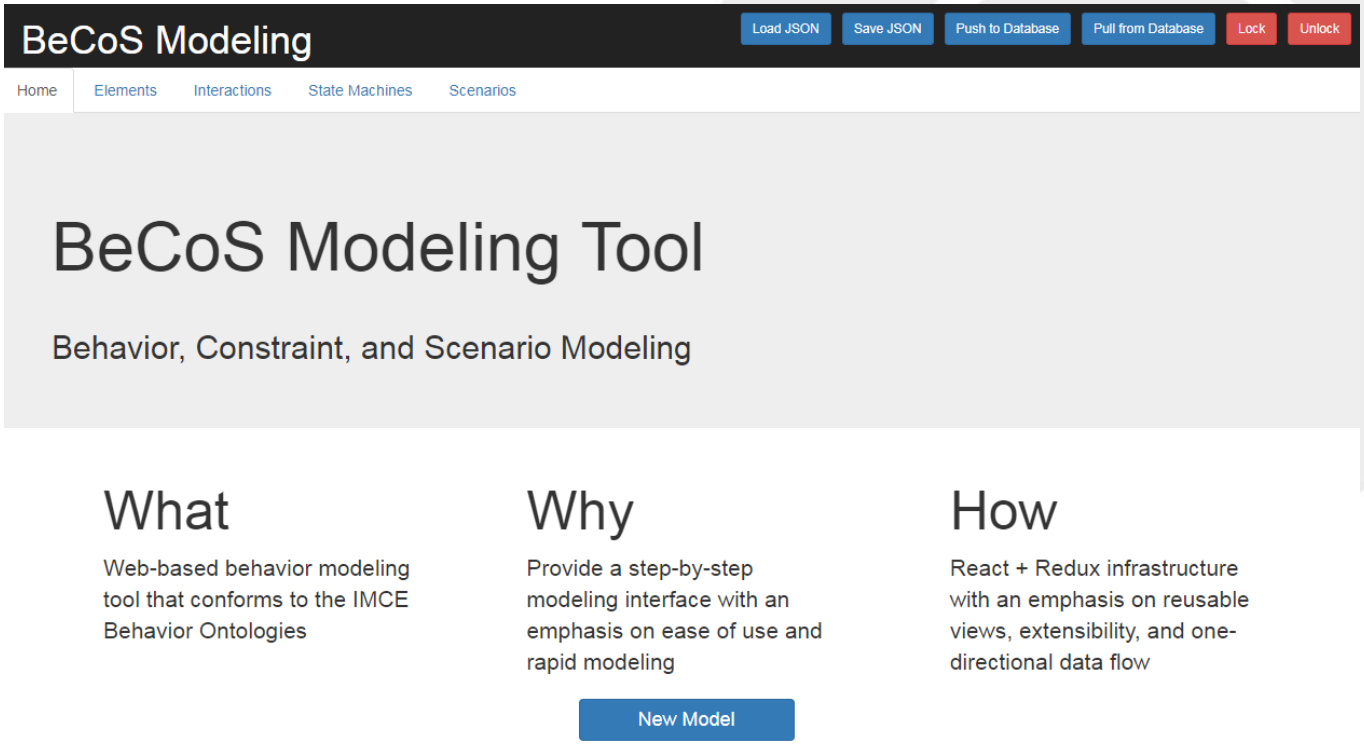
Outline

- Motivation and Background
- Ontology Definitions
- BeCoS Tool Overview
- Future Work
- Integrating BeCoS with JPL Tools
- Conclusions

BeCoS Modeling Tool

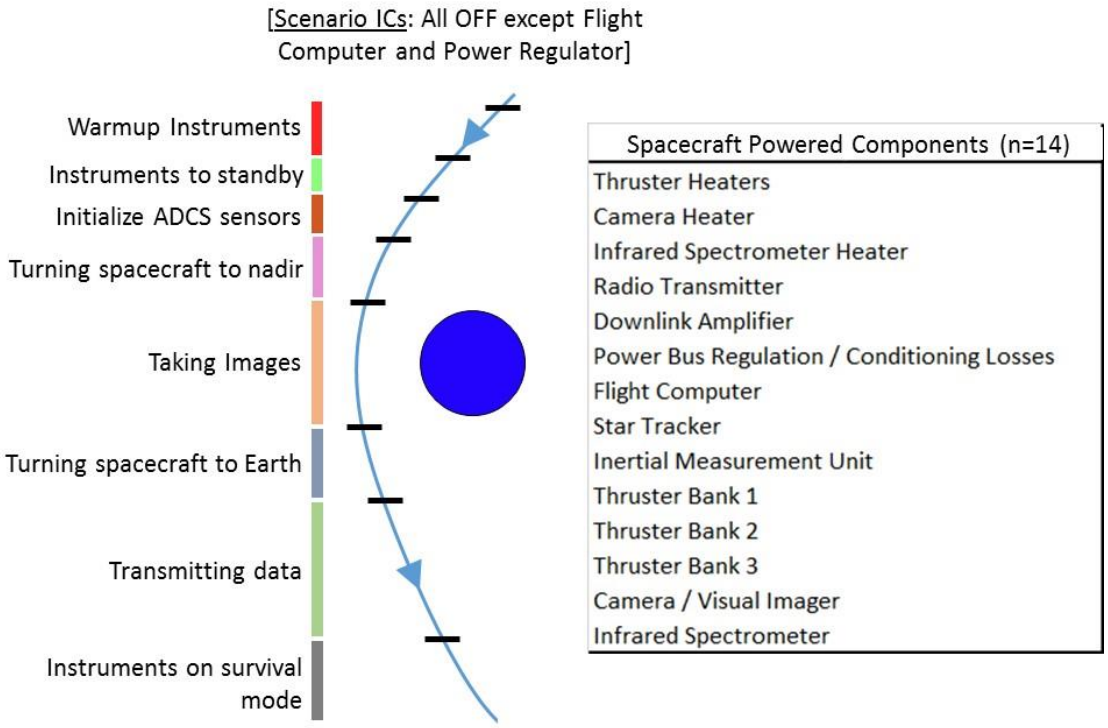
- Web-based application to model (i.e. specify) system **behavior** and **scenarios**



Motivation – What is meant by "Behavior"?

- State variable properties of a system and their values over time, and constraints that describe or define changes

- Classified into:
  - Intrinsic behavior - What variables are used to describe a system
  - Scenario behavior - How state variables evolve over time



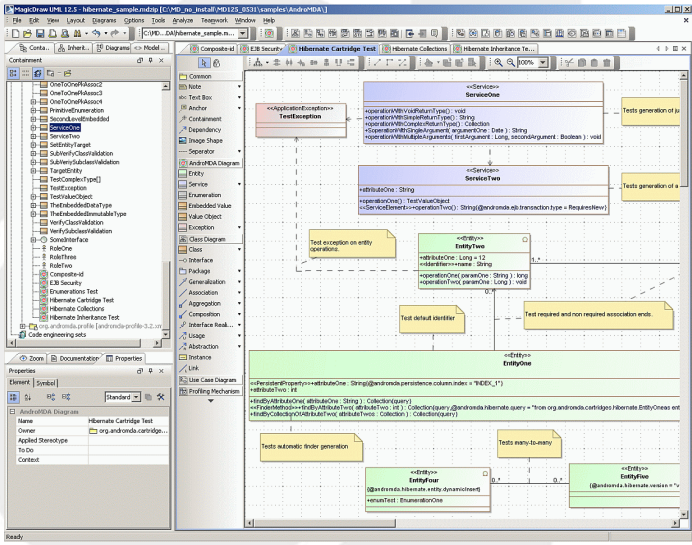
Motivation – Why Model Behavior?

- Need to understand how component / subsystem behavior aggregates into behavior of a real system

- Can run simulations on modeled behavior
  - Developmental phase
    - Power/Data predictions; assess against allocations
    - Science collections; assess against objectives
  - Operational phase
    - Simulate next operational cycle to ensure activities within resource constraints

Motivation – Issues with existing tools

- Behavior modeling in SysML using MagicDraw
  - MagicDraw is the JPL-supported tool for SysML
  - Relative high barrier to entry with SysML / MagicDraw for non-experienced users
    - Heavy-weight tool that presents to users much more expressivity (thus options) than needed for behavior modeling
  - There are existing domain-specific ontologies (e.g. Behavior Ontology)
    - There exists a much more compact representation in a modeling tool that is based on those ontologies
  - No general SysML representation for Temporal Constraint Networks (scenarios); must embed TCNs within activity diagram
- Scenario specification – declarative vs. imperative
  - Declarative – goal-based (what you want to happen)
  - Imperative – procedure-based (how you want something to happen)
  - Many current tools support imperative specification
    - Cumbersome to review with complex systems
    - Operational intent has to be inferred

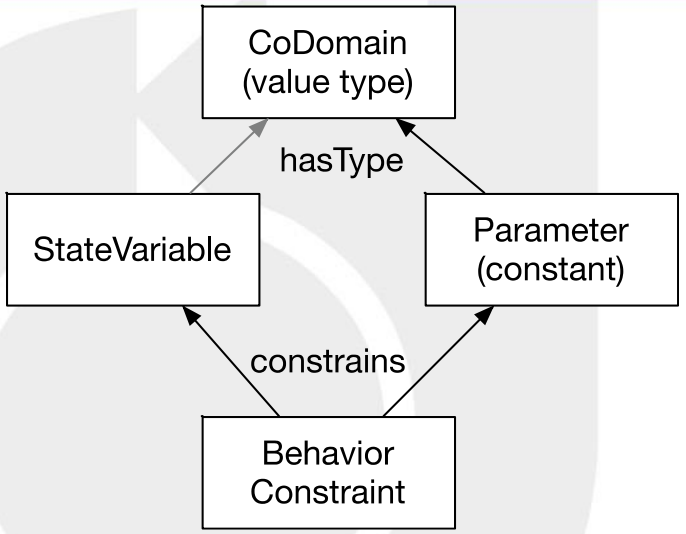


Ontological Approach

- Ontology establishes a vocabulary that can be used to talk about domain of interest
  - Focuses on the concepts and relationships of interest, not on the syntax or particular set of operators
- JPL's institutional model-based systems engineering capabilities are being built upon an ontological modeling foundation
- BeCoS only presents information necessary for ontology

Ontology - Behavior

- **State variable** is a typed property whose value can change over time
- **Parameter** is a typed constant
- **Behavior constraints** constrain how state variable values can propagate over time
  - Constraints assert relationships that are true for all time



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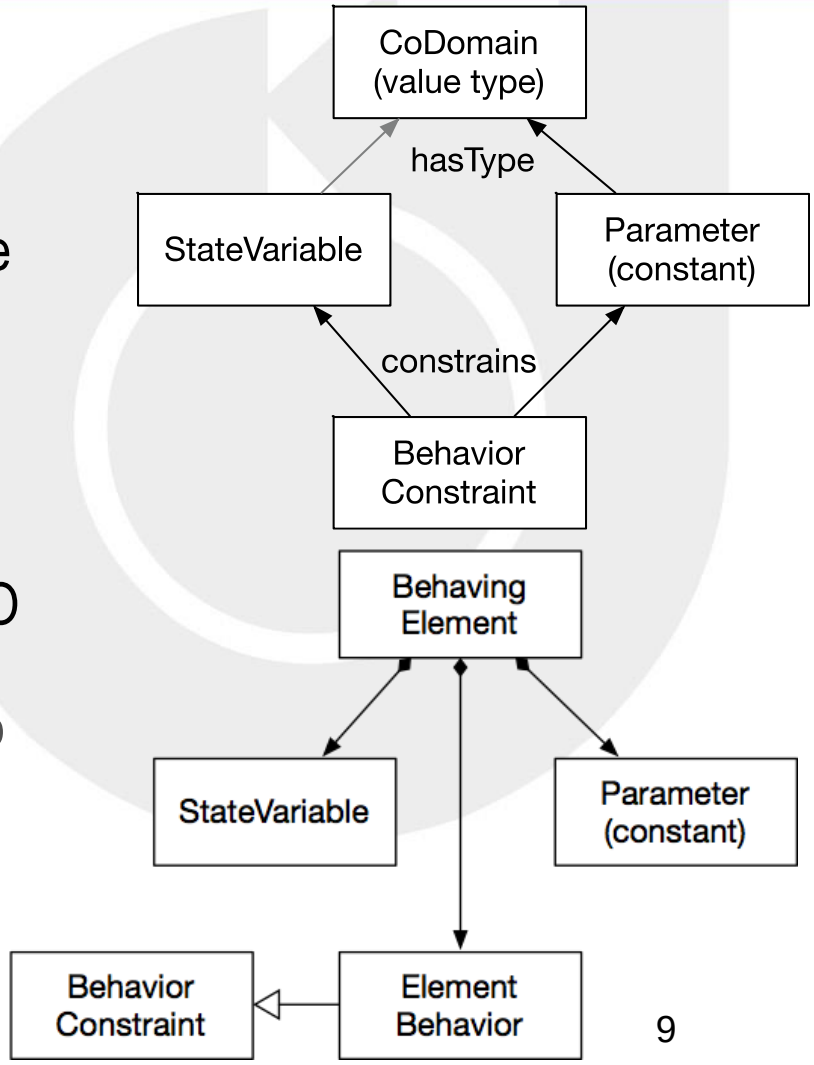
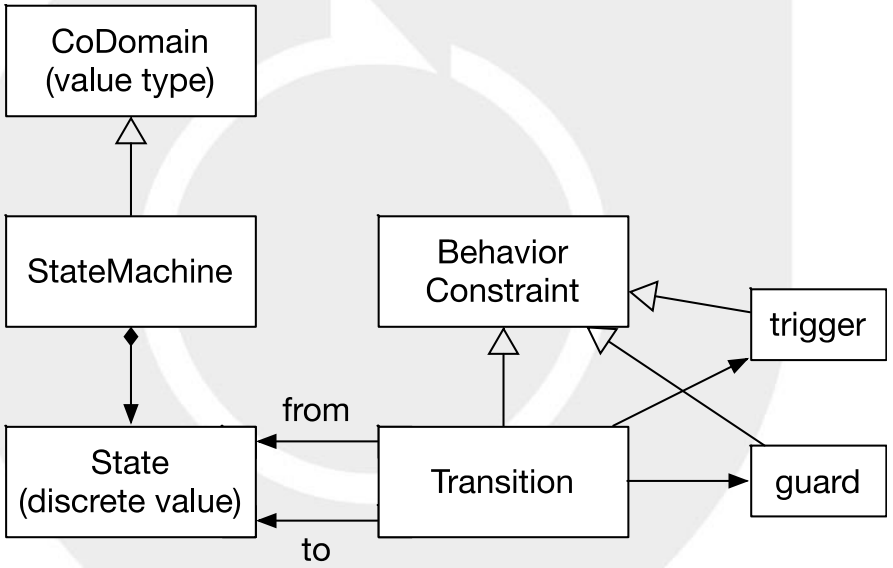
- **Behaving elements** simply provide an OO type containment of properties
  - Containment has no semantic relationship to the "math" of behavior, and is only intended to support an OO composition
  - Element Behavior is a form of Behavior Constraint (more specifically, it can be a set/container of Behavior Constraints)



Ontology - Behavior

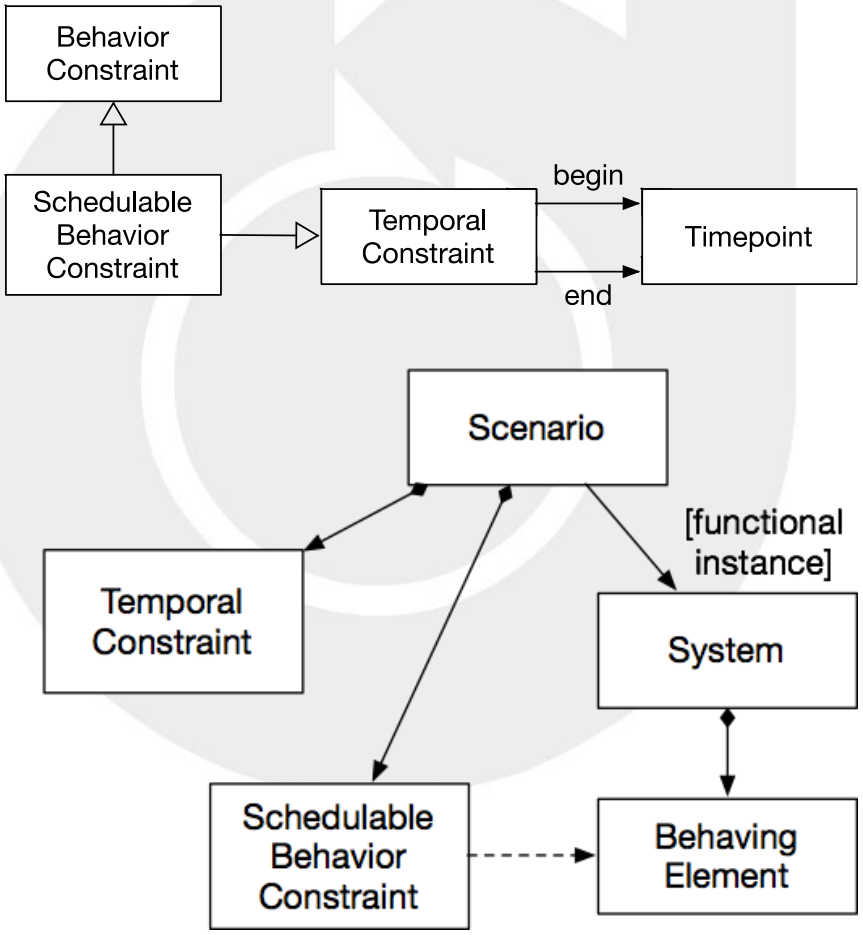
- State machines are a discrete value type
  - Useful abstraction for describing control behaviors
- SM defines a value type having an enumeration of orthogonal, discrete “state” values
- Transition rules define associated behavior constraints
  - Triggers, guards



Ontology - Scenario

- A **scenario** describes some progression of states of a *particular system* over some unit of time

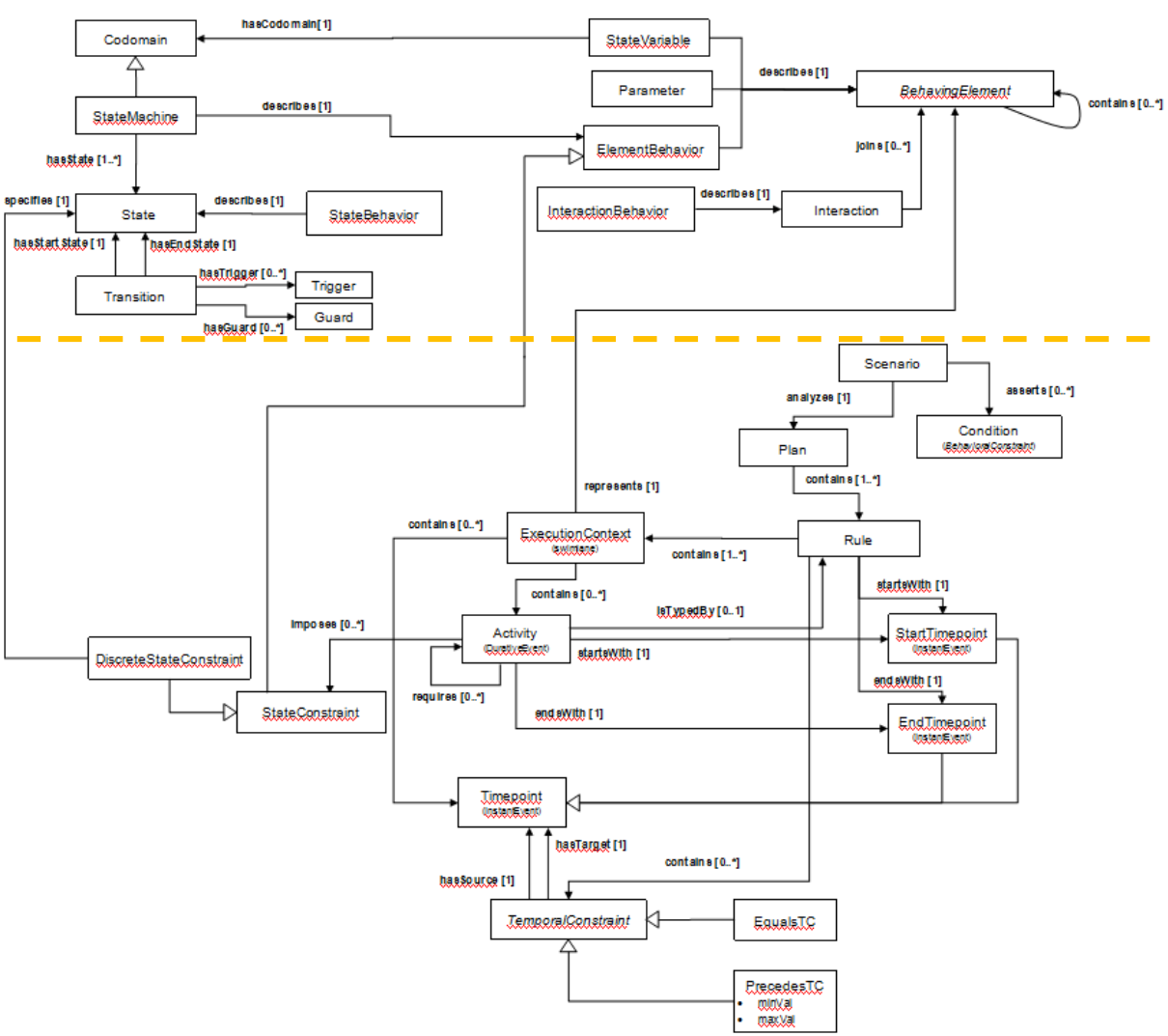
- A **scenario** is composed of:
  - schedulable behavior constraints on the states/parameters of the Behaving Elements in the System
    - E.g., “SwitchPosition = Closed” for 10 seconds
  - additional temporal constraints that serve to coordinate the behavior in time
    - E.g., “SwitchPosition = Open” for 5 seconds ***immediately precedes*** “SwitchPosition = Closed” for 10 seconds



Ontology – Implemented in BeCoS

Behavior Ontology

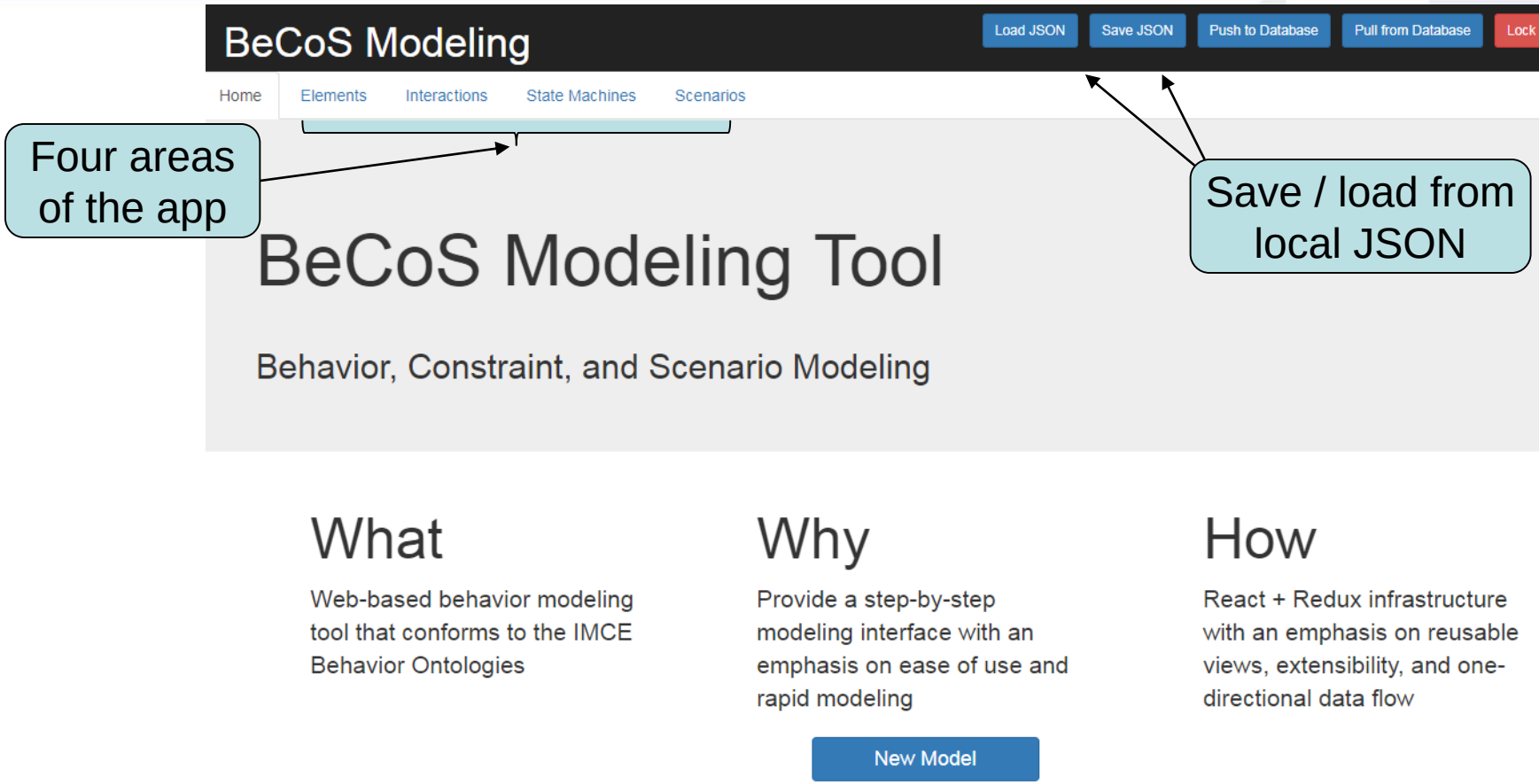
Scenario Ontology



BeCoS Tool

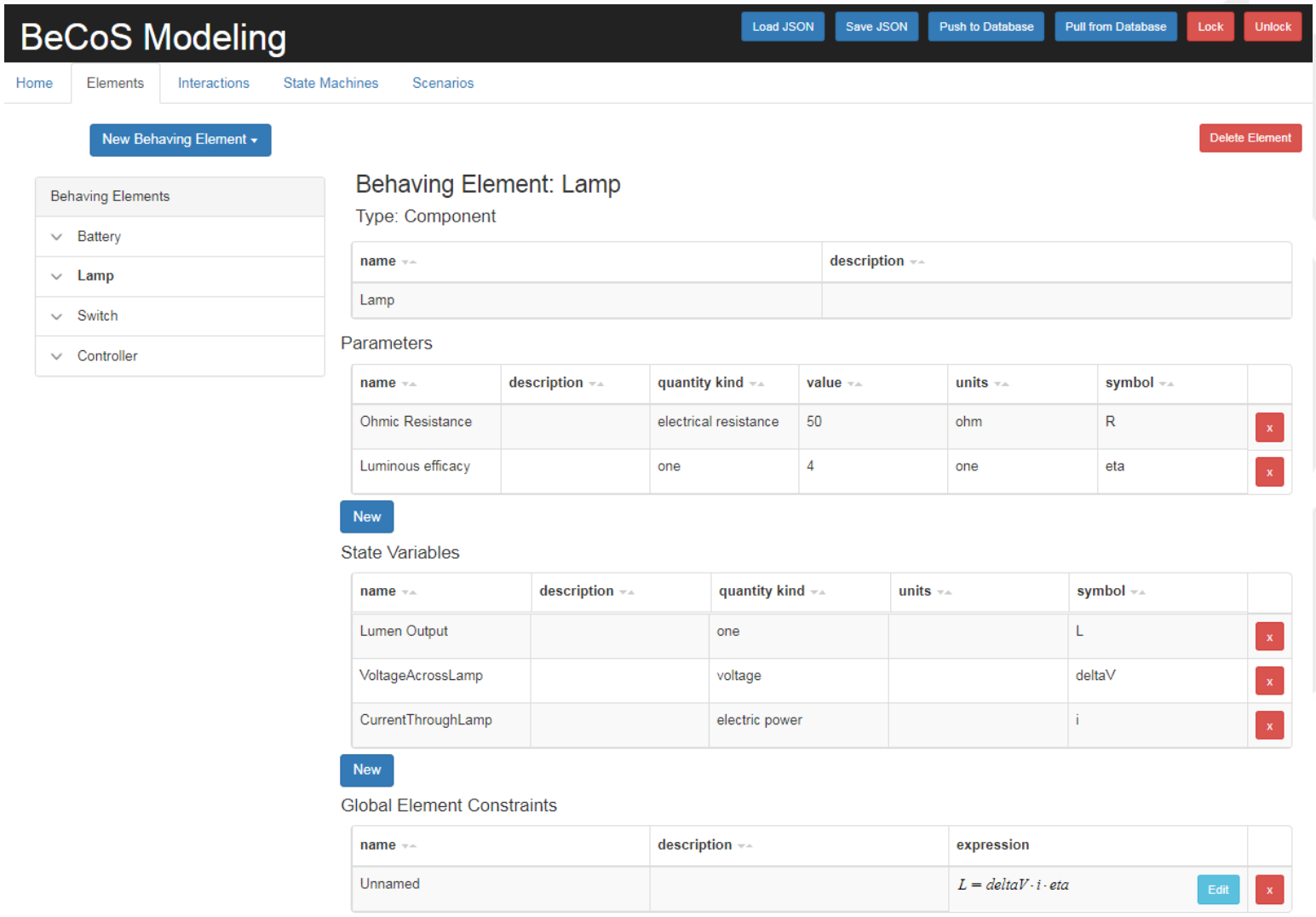
- Web-based application to support behavior modeling
  - Intrinsic behavior (behaving elements, state variables, parameters, state machines, constraints, interactions)
  - Scenarios (asserting how state constraints evolve over time)
- Architecture
  - React framework used with Redux
  - Off-the-shelf libraries used as much as possible
    - D3, Bootstrap, Mathquill, among others
- Guiding Principles
  - Site must be easily navigable and user-friendly
  - Present only relevant information to the user
  - Correct by construction enforced throughout app
    - Presenting only relevant information
    - Validation checks where applicable

BeCoS Tool



- Illustrative example
  - Lamp circuit – battery, lamp, switch, controller

BeCoS Tool – Elements Tab

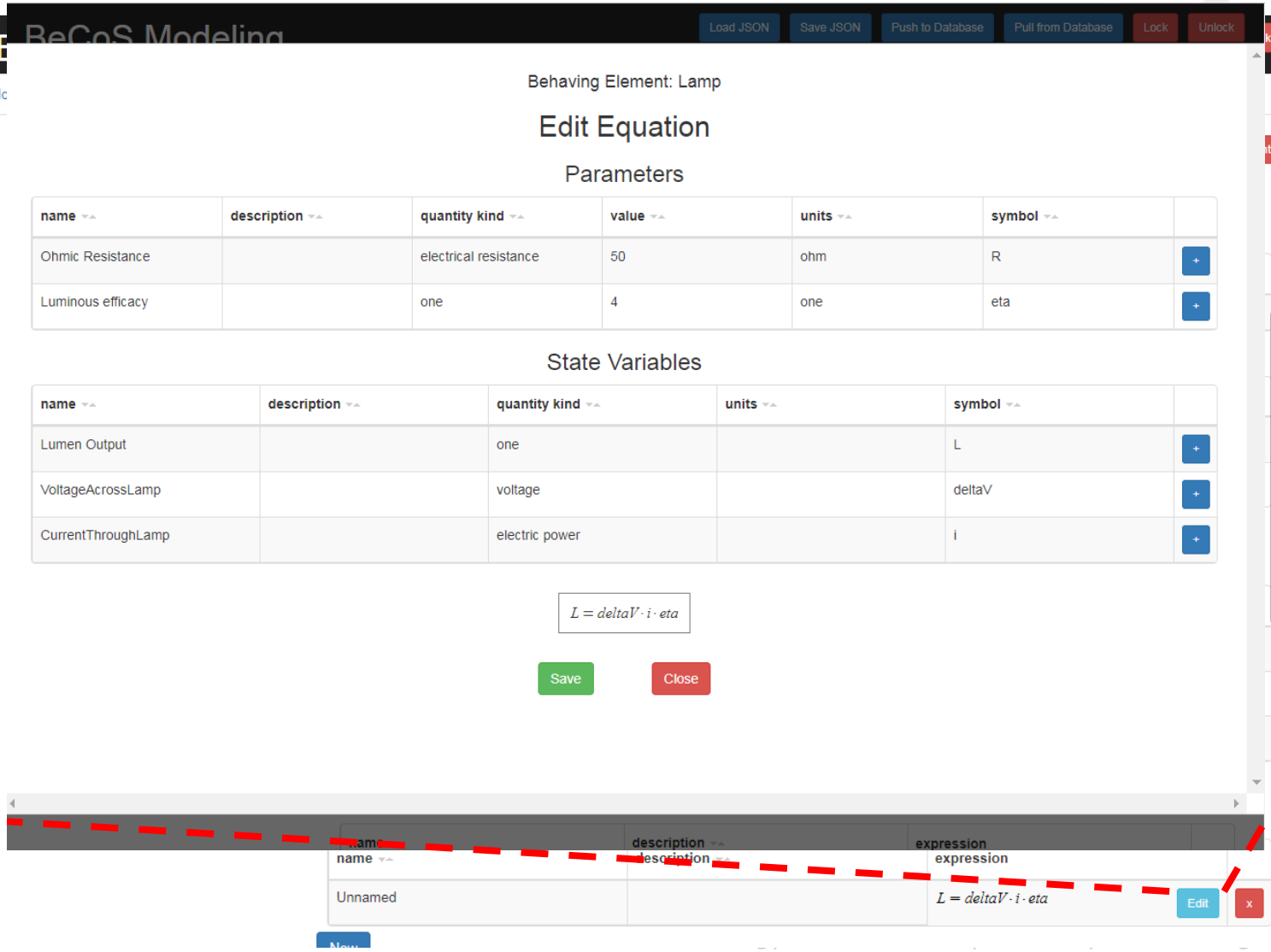


Parameters (constants)

State Variables – time varying

Behavior constraint

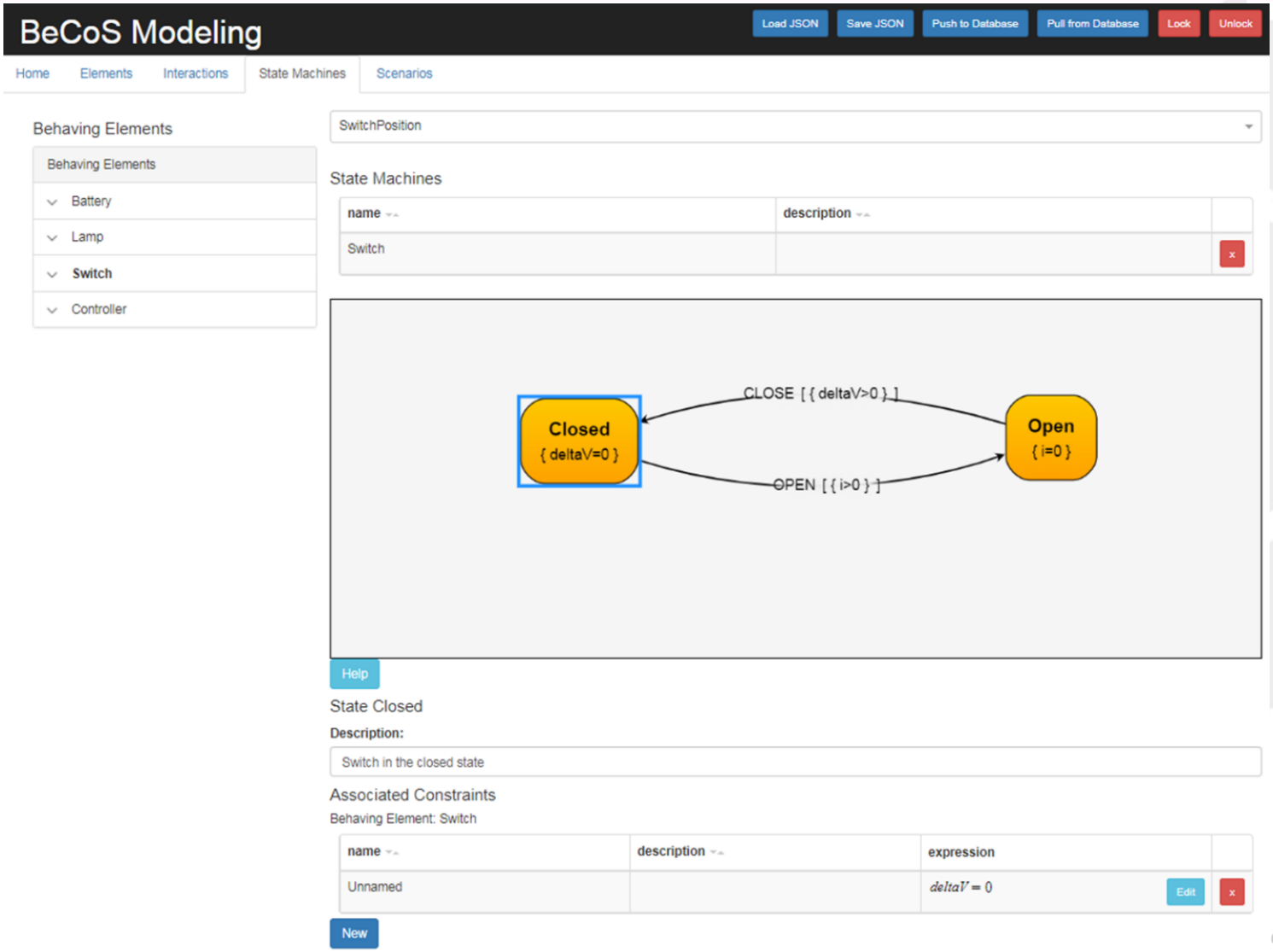
BeCoS Tool – Constraint Editor



Defining behavior constraints –

Uses SVs and parameters from selected behaving element

BeCoS Tool – State Machines Tab

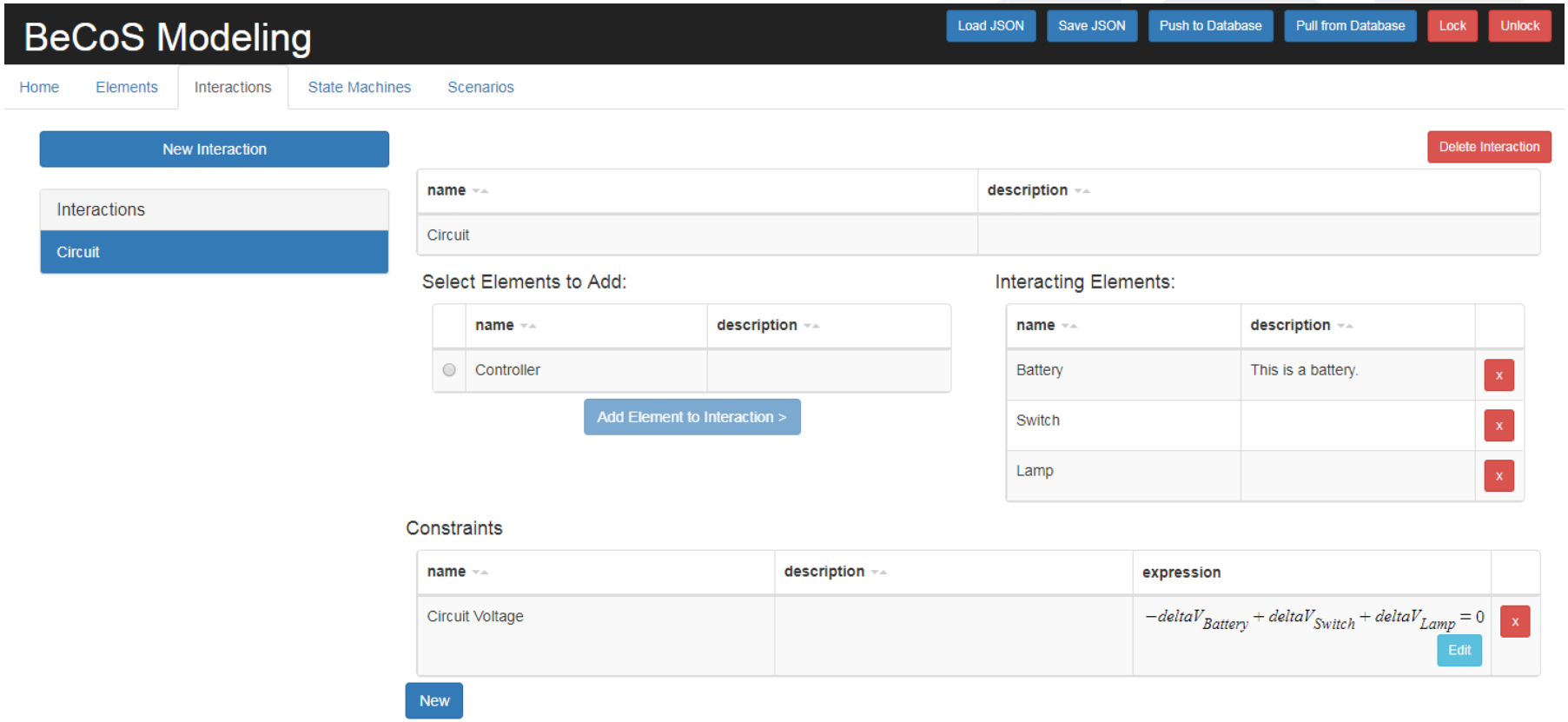


Switch SV "SwitchPosition" typed by "StateMachine"

- States with behavior constraints
- Transitions with triggers and guards

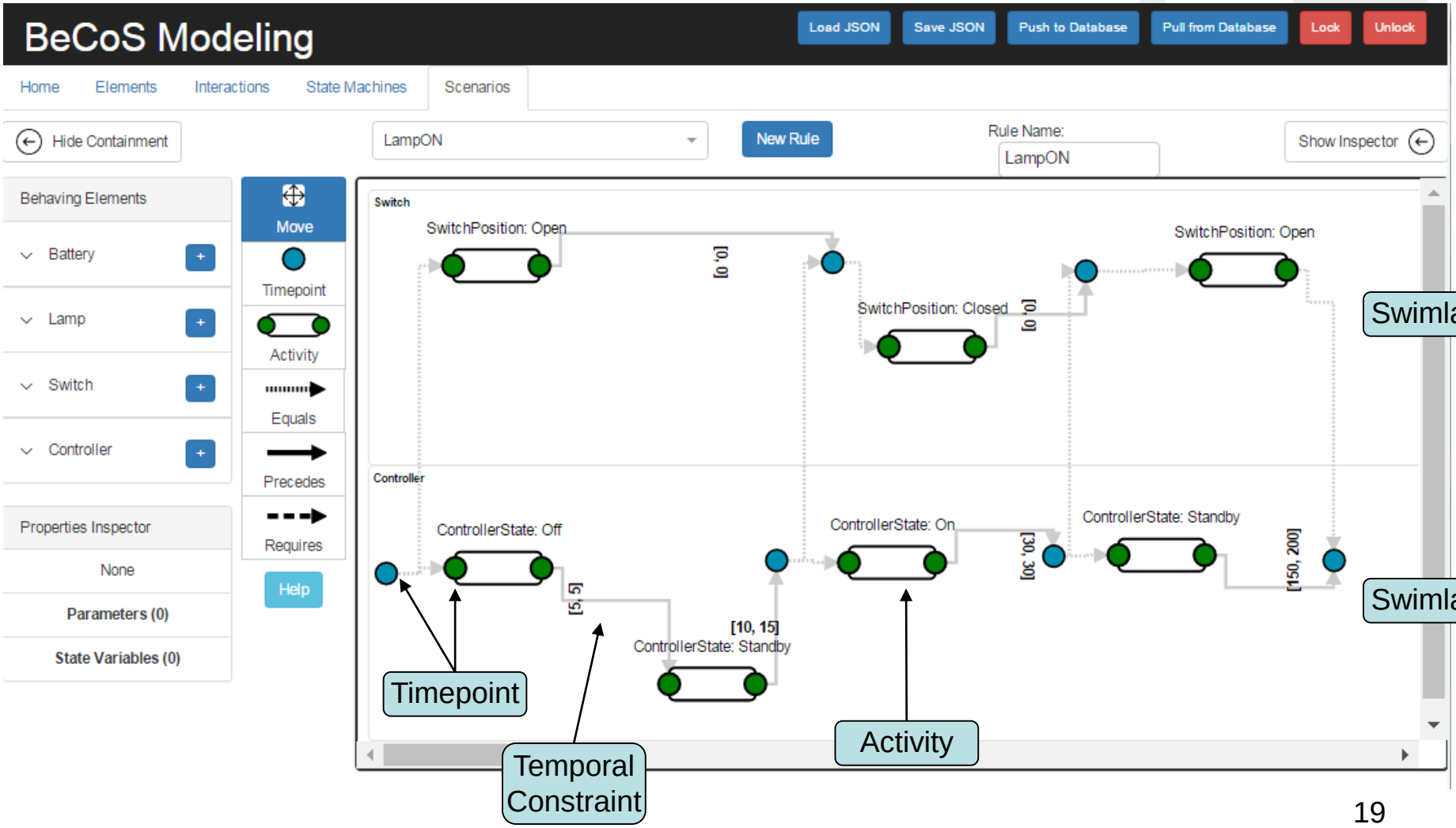
Defining behavior constraints on selected state (or trigger/guards on selected transition)

BeCoS Tool – Interactions Tab

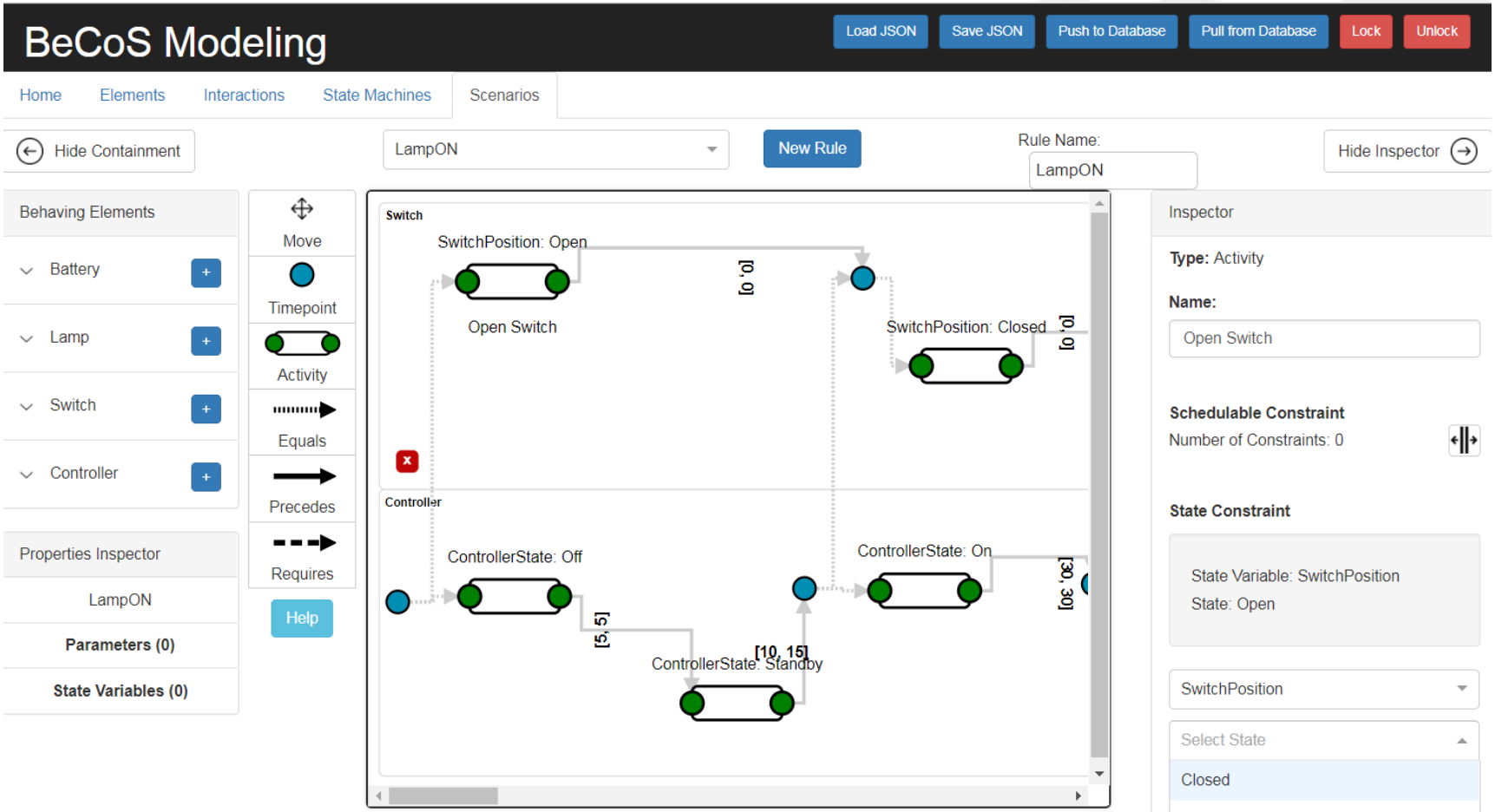


Interactions define behavior constraints from more than one behaving element.

BeCoS Tool – Scenarios Tab



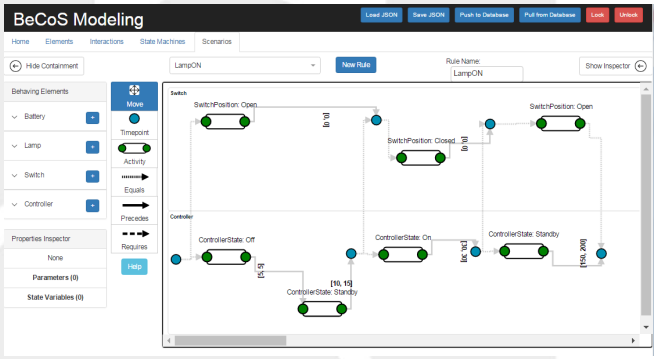
BeCoS Tool – Scenarios Tab



Specify details of selected activity

Future Work

- Advancing tool to production quality
  - Fixing many identified issues (>75)
  - Assess user interface in Scenario tab



- Model validation analyses
  - State reachability analysis
    - Verifies system can transition into and out of all states
  - Scenario validation
    - ensure acyclic graph

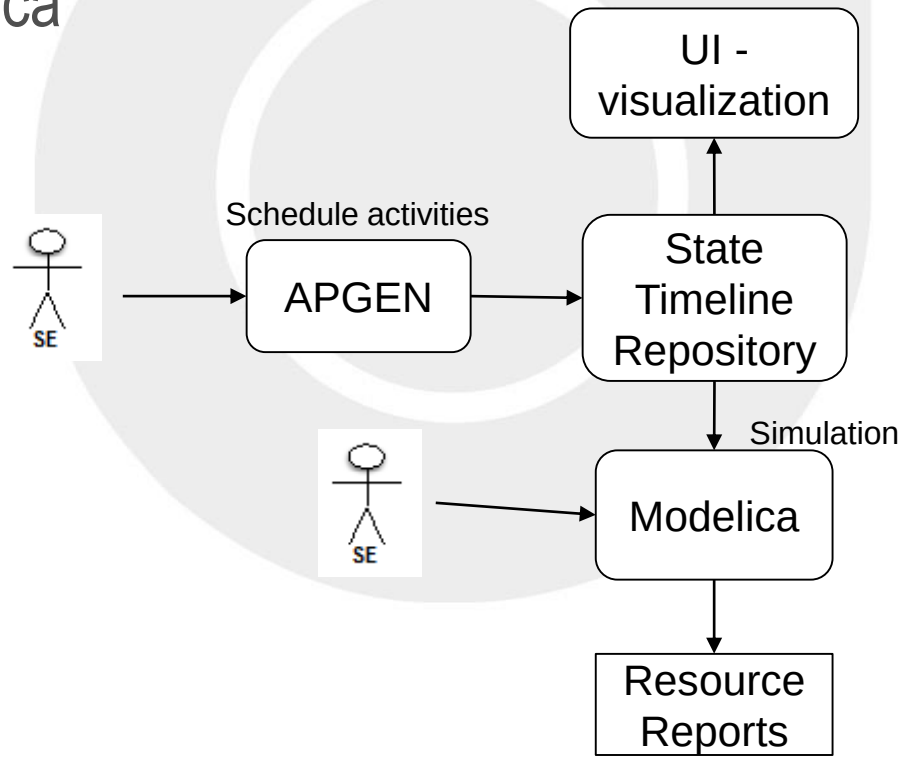
Future Work

- Integrate BeCoS into end-to-end resource analysis workflow

- Activity Plan Generator (APGEN)
  - Schedules activities, simulates a scenario, and produces state timelines for all modeled variables
  - Currently used as scheduling tool on Europa Clipper
  - Inputs to APGEN (system behavior and scenarios) must be hand-coded in a textual interface
    - Not possible to review inputs – only verification of modeled behavior is through inspection of timeline outputs
- JPL's new MBSE ecosystem
  - Tool / database to serve as single-source-of-truth
  - Exchange model information with specification tools (e.g. BeCoS, MagicDraw), and analysis tools (e.g. APGEN, Modelica)
    - Data exchanged adheres to ontologies

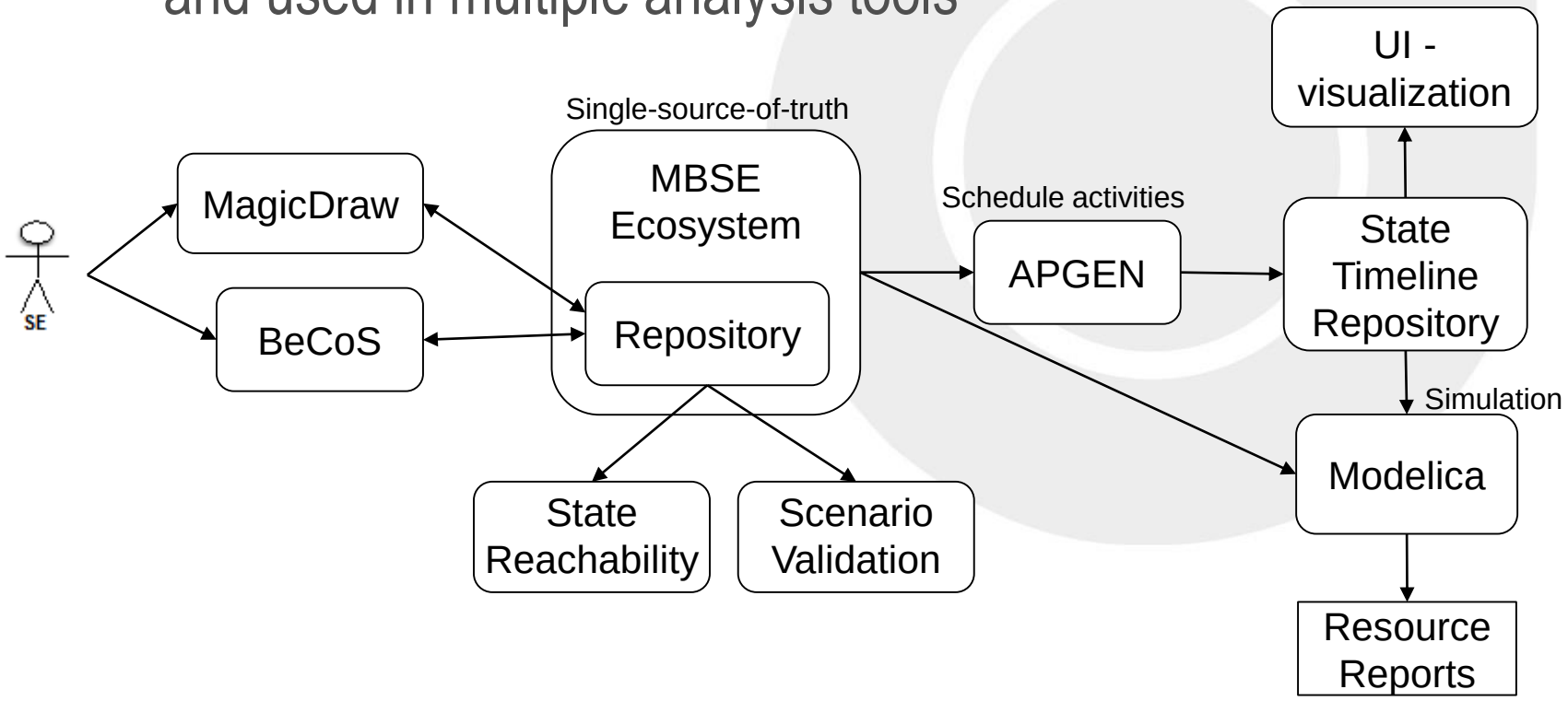
Integrating BeCoS with APGEN

- Current workflow for resource reports
  - Manual specification of behavior models in both APGEN and Modelica



Integrating BeCoS with APGEN

- Desired workflow for FY18
  - Behavior specified once in BeCoS can be transformed and used in multiple analysis tools



Summary

- Developed a web app to allow systems engineers to directly specify:
  - Behaviors (state variables, parameters, constraints, interactions, state machines)
  - Declaratively-specified scenarios
- Prototype tool with initial user testing by Europa Clipper users
- Plan to integrate BeCoS with JPL analysis tools
  - Perform simulations with behavior directly specified by systems engineers

Acknowledgements

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  - Justin Kaderka (task lead)
  - John Arballo (developer)
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  - Erika Hill, Deanna Heer, Zachery Miranda, David Tsui, Thomas Kwak, and Brandon Wang (past intern developers)
  - Matthew Rozek (past user / advisor)
  - David Wagner (advisor)
  - Michel Ingham (advisor)

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